

percent. Within these counties, unemployment in some agricultural communities has touched 40 percent.

Farms and ranches are an important source of jobs in these communities.

This legislation aims to protect family farms that intend to hire, while providing more certainty to thousands of workers across the State.

In 2006, I warned that difficult decisions would be required before the estate tax expired in 2010.

Well, 2010 is here and the picture of our nation's fiscal health is not a pretty one.

We are facing a record \$1.3 trillion budget deficit.

The national debt has reached a new high at roughly \$13 trillion.

The parameters of the estate tax debate have shifted for most, by necessity.

Full estate tax repeal is out of the question, and our number one priority for allocating federal resources has rightly been shifted to job creation and economic recovery.

But, absent Congressional action, the estate tax will return with ferocity next year at a 55 percent rate with an exemption level of \$1 million.

I don't think this is something that many in this body would like to see.

So, any estate tax reform must be well-targeted and balanced to ensure it is fiscally responsible.

As we work to develop comprehensive, permanent, and fiscally-responsible estate tax reform this year, I urge my colleagues to remember that the estate tax was never intended to prevent family farms from being passed from generation to generation.

Our legislation resolves this issue for once and for all, and by safeguarding against loopholes for rich farming conglomerates and agribusinesses, it does so at minimal cost.

Moreover, we take steps forward to protect our precious environment and preserve open space and agricultural lands.

There is no doubt that many family farmers are under financial pressure during these difficult times.

We must take steps to bring relief to the very family farmers and ranchers who have devoted their lives to helping feed and sustain this great nation.

This legislation is a fiscally responsible and targeted effort to ensure that we preserve this tradition for legitimate working farms.

Estate tax reform must be addressed soon, and this issue can no longer be delayed.

I urge my colleagues to support this effort and to enact this legislation as quickly as possible.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 596—TO DESIGNATE SEPTEMBER 25, 2010, AS “NATIONAL ESTUARIES DAY”

Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. CASEY, Mr.

REED, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. KAUFMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. GREGG, Mr. WEBB, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 596

Whereas the estuary regions of the United States comprise a significant share of the national economy, with 43 percent of the population, 40 percent of the employment, and 49 percent of the economic output of the United States located in the estuary regions of the United States;

Whereas coasts and estuaries contribute more than \$800,000,000,000 annually in trade and commerce to the United States economy;

Whereas more than 43 percent of all adults in the United States visit a sea coast or estuary at least once a year to participate in some form of recreation, generating \$8,000,000,000 to \$12,000,000,000 in revenue annually;

Whereas more than 28,000,000 jobs in the United States are supported by commercial and recreational fishing, boating, tourism, and other coastal industries that rely on healthy estuaries;

Whereas estuaries provide vital habitat for countless species of fish and wildlife, including many that are listed as threatened or endangered;

Whereas estuaries provide critical ecosystem services that protect human health and public safety, including water filtration, flood control, shoreline stabilization and erosion prevention, and the protection of coastal communities during extreme weather events;

Whereas 55,000,000 acres of estuarine habitat have been destroyed during the 100 years preceding the date of agreement to this resolution;

Whereas bays once filled with fish and oysters have become dead zones filled with excess nutrients, chemical wastes, harmful algae, and marine debris;

Whereas sea level rise is accelerating the degradation of estuaries by—

- (1) submerging low-lying land;
- (2) eroding beaches;
- (3) converting wetland to open water;
- (4) exacerbating coastal flooding; and
- (5) increasing the salinity of estuaries and freshwater aquifers;

Whereas the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.) declares that it is the national policy to preserve, protect, develop, and if possible, to restore or enhance, the resources of the coastal zone of the United States, including estuaries, for current and future generations;

Whereas scientific study leads to better understanding of the benefits of estuaries to human and ecological communities;

Whereas Federal, State, local, and tribal governments, national and community organizations, and individuals work together to effectively manage the estuaries of the United States;

Whereas estuary restoration efforts restore natural infrastructure in local communities in a cost effective manner, helping to create jobs and reestablish the natural functions of estuaries that yield countless benefits; and

Whereas September 25, 2010, has been designated as “National Estuaries Day” to increase awareness among all people of the United States, including Federal, State and local government officials, about the importance of healthy estuaries and the need to

protect and restore estuaries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 25, 2010, as “National Estuaries Day”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Estuaries Day;

(3) acknowledges the importance of estuaries to the economic well-being and productivity of the United States;

(4) recognizes that persistent threats undermine the health of the estuaries of the United States;

(5) applauds the work of national and community organizations and public partners that promote public awareness, understanding, protection, and restoration of estuaries;

(6) reaffirms the support of the Senate for estuaries, including the scientific study, preservation, protection, and restoration of estuaries; and

(7) expresses the intent of the Senate to continue working to understand, protect, and restore the estuaries of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 597—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2010 AS “NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BURR, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DODD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. JOHANNIS, Mr. KERRY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. VITTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 597

Whereas countless families in the United States live with prostate cancer;

Whereas 1 in 6 males in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in his lifetime;

Whereas prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer and the second most common cause of cancer-related deaths among males in the United States;

Whereas in 2010, 217,730 males in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, and 32,050 males will die from the disease;

Whereas 30 percent of newly diagnosed prostate cancer cases occur in males under the age of 65;

Whereas approximately every 14 seconds, a male in the United States turns 50 years old and increases his odds of developing cancer, including prostate cancer;

Whereas African-American males suffer from a prostate cancer incidence rate that is up to 65 percent higher than White males and have double the prostate cancer mortality rate of White males;

Whereas obesity is a significant predictor of the severity of prostate cancer;

Whereas the probability that obesity will lead to death and high cholesterol levels is strongly associated with advanced prostate cancer;

Whereas males in the United States with 1 family member diagnosed with prostate cancer have a 1 in 3 chance of being diagnosed with the disease; males with 2 family members diagnosed have an 83 percent chance; and males with 3 family members diagnosed have a 97 percent chance;

Whereas screening by a digital rectal examination and a prostate-specific antigen blood test can detect the disease at the early stages, increasing the chances of survival for more than 5 years to nearly 100 percent;

Whereas only 33 percent of males survive more than 5 years if diagnosed during the late stages of the disease;

Whereas there are no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer while it is still in the early stages, making screening critical;

Whereas ongoing research promises further improvements in prostate cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment; and

Whereas educating people in the United States, including health care providers, about prostate cancer and early detection strategies is crucial to saving the lives of males and preserving and protecting families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2010 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”;

(2) declares that steps should be taken—

(A) to raise awareness about the importance of screening methods for, and treatment of, prostate cancer;

(B) to increase research funding that is commensurate with the burden of prostate cancer so that—

(i) screening and treatment may be improved;

(ii) the causes may be discovered; and

(iii) a cure may be developed; and

(C) to continue to consider ways for improving access to, and the quality of, health care services for detecting and treating prostate cancer; and

(3) calls on the people of the United States, interested groups, and affected persons—

(A) to promote awareness of prostate cancer;

(B) to take an active role in the fight to end the devastating effects of prostate cancer on individuals, families, and the economy; and

(C) to observe National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 598—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2010 AS “NATIONAL CHILD AWARENESS MONTH” TO PROMOTE AWARENESS OF CHARITIES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND RECOGNIZING EFFORTS MADE BY THESE CHARITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH AS CRITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUTURE OF THE NATION

Mr. BURR (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 598

Whereas millions of children and youth in the United States represent the hopes and future of the United States;

Whereas numerous individuals, charities benefitting children, and youth-serving organizations that work with children and youth collaborate to provide invaluable services to enrich and better the lives of children and youth throughout the United States;

Whereas raising awareness of and increasing support for organizations that provide access to healthcare, social services, education, the arts, sports, and other services

will result in the development of character and the future success of the children and youth of the Nation;

Whereas September, as the school year begins, is a time when parents, families, teachers, school administrators, and communities increase their focus on children and youth throughout the United States;

Whereas September is a time for the people of the United States to highlight and be mindful of the needs of children and youth;

Whereas private corporations and businesses have joined with hundreds of national and local charitable organizations throughout the United States in support of a month-long focus on children and youth; and

Whereas designating September 2010 as “National Child Awareness Month” would recognize that a long-term commitment to children and youth is in the public interest, and will encourage widespread support for charities and organizations that seek to provide a better future for the children and youth of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates September 2010 as “National Child Awareness Month”—

(1) to promote awareness of charities benefitting children and youth-serving organizations throughout the United States; and

(2) to recognize efforts made by such charities and organizations on behalf of children and youth as critical contributions to the future of the Nation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 599—DESIGNATING AUGUST 16, 2010, AS “NATIONAL AIRBORNE DAY”

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. REED, Mr. REID, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. BURR, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. BACUS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOND, Mr. BENNETT, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. CORKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 599

Whereas the airborne forces of the Armed Forces have a long and honorable history as units of bold and fierce warriors who, for the national security of the United States and the defense of freedom and peace, project the effective ground combat power of the United States by Air Force air transport to the far reaches of the battle area and, indeed, to the far corners of the world;

Whereas the United States experiment with airborne infantry attack began on June 25, 1940, when the Army Parachute Test Platoon was first authorized by the Department of War and was launched when 48 volunteers began training in July 1940;

Whereas August 16 marks the anniversary of the first official Army parachute jump on August 16, 1940, to test the innovative concept of inserting United States ground combat forces behind a battle line by means of parachute;

Whereas the success of the Army Parachute Test Platoon in the days immediately before the entry of the United States into World War II led to the formation of a formidable force of airborne units that have served with distinction and have had repeated success in armed hostilities;

Whereas among those first airborne units are the former 11th, 13th, and 17th Airborne Divisions, the current 82nd and 101st Air-

borne Divisions, and the later airborne regiments and battalions (some as components of those divisions and some as separate units) that achieved distinction as the 75th Ranger Regiment, the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, the 187th Infantry (Airborne) Regiment, which is the only airborne unit to have served as a Glider, Parachute, and Air Assault Regiment, the 501st, 502nd, 503rd, 504th, 505th, 506th, 507th, 508th, 509th, 511th, 513th, 517th, 541st, and 542nd Parachute Infantry Regiments, the 88th, 127th, 193rd, 194th, 325th, 326th, 327th, and 401st Glider Infantry Regiments, the 509th, 550th, 551st, and 555th Parachute Infantry Battalions, and the 550th Airborne Infantry Battalion;

Whereas the achievements of the airborne forces during World War II prompted the evolution of those forces into a diversified force of parachute and air assault units that, over the years, have fought in Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama, the Persian Gulf region, and Somalia and have engaged in peacekeeping operations in Lebanon, the Sinai Peninsula, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Bosnia, and Kosovo;

Whereas since the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, United States paratroopers, which include members of the XVIII Airborne Corps, the 82nd Airborne Division, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, the 4th Brigade (Airborne) of the 25th Infantry Division, the 75th Ranger Regiment, and special forces units, together with other units of the Armed Forces, have demonstrated bravery and honor in combat operations, civil affairs missions, and training operations in Afghanistan and Iraq;

Whereas the modern day airborne force also includes other elite forces composed entirely of airborne trained and qualified special operations warriors, including Army Special Forces, Marine Corps Reconnaissance units, Navy SEALs, Air Force combat control teams, pararescue, and weather teams, all of which are part of the United States Special Operations Command;

Whereas of the members and former members of the United States airborne forces, thousands have achieved the distinction of making combat jumps, dozens have earned the Medal of Honor, and hundreds have earned the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star Medal, or other decorations and awards for displays heroism, gallantry, intrepidity, and valor;

Whereas the members and former members of the United States airborne forces are all members of a proud and honorable tradition that, together with their special skills and achievements, distinguishes them as intrepid combat parachutists, air assault forces, special operation forces, and, in former days, glider troops;

Whereas the history and achievements of the members and former members of the United States airborne forces warrant special expressions of the gratitude of the people of the United States; and

Whereas, since the airborne community celebrates August 16 as the anniversary of the first official jump by the Army Parachute Test Platoon, August 16 would be an appropriate day to recognize as National Airborne Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates August 16, 2010, as “National Airborne Day”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Airborne Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.